VANDALIA EX-BRAKEMAN.

Accuses Him of Luring Her Daughter Away from Home, Though He Is a Married Man.

FOUND DEAD IN SENTRY BOX

AGED WATCHMAN OF THE WABASH RAILROAD AT LAFAYETTE.

Coroner Is Investigating-Branstrator Will Case Decided-Death of a Veteran Editor.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. TERRE HAUTE, Ind., April 5 .- "You had better make that kiss a good one,' said Mrs. Hannah Denny to-day, as Orma Marbray was kissing his wife good-bye at the front door. Marbray started for Mrs. Denny, who held a revolver in her hand, and Mrs. Denny fired. The bullet went through his right hand and he ran away. Mrs. Marbray shut the front door in her face and was turning the key when Mrs. Denny fired a second shot at Denny through the glass of the door, but the bullet entered Mrs. Marbray's shoulder and lodged near the heart, causing a serious wound, but one from which she is expected

Mrs. Denny was taken to police headquarters and there told her story. Later own recognizance to appear next Monday. Mrs. Denny says that a year ago Marbray began calling on her daughter May, representing that he was a single man. Recently Mrs. Denny learned that he was band's conduct, but that she was afraid to say anything about it, as he had threatened to kill her. Mrs. Denny says that her daughter was lured away from home on Tuesday by Marbray, and that at the time he was bidding his wife good-bye May was in an alley waiting for him.

Marbray was a Vandalia brakeman, but was recently discharged. Mrs. Denny is the widow of the late County Recorder Denny. She says she regrets she did not kill Marbray, and that she would willingly go to the gallows if she could kill him.

#### FOUND DEAD IN HIS BOX.

#### Veteran Watchman for the Wabash Road at Lafayette. Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., April 5 .- Lying up against a hot stove in the little watch shanty on Main street. he had worked for the past forty years, the dead body of John Muncle, a Wabash crossing watchman, was found this morning. The cause of death is a mystery, there being talk of suicide and even of murder, but both theories are scouted by the coroner, who believes death was due to strangulation or heart failure. The discovery was made by John Sheehan, who boarded at the same place Muncie did. It was supposed until this morning that Muncle was in bed last night, but when the girl went to call him | Fort Wayne Charmed with a Musical she found the room had not been occupied. The landlady sent Sheehan to the crossing shanty, and the latter found Muncle's dead body lying beside the stove, badly burned and blistered by the heat. His watch and \$150 in money were found on his person, tending to disprove the murder theory. The last seen of Muncle was at 6 o'clock last night, when he left the house to take

Muncie was seventy-one years old and entered the employ of the Wabash Railroad in 1856 as a member of the surveying corps. He was transferred to the operating department and was in the head-end collision at Logansport in 1862, when he lost an arm. He was married four times, but left no relatives. The coroner will investigate fur-

#### BLOCK MINERS HAVE DOUBTS

#### As to How the National Executive Mrs. Edith Yarnelle Keegan, Mrs. Samuel Special to the Indianapolis Journal, Board Will View the Strike.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. BRAZIL, Ind., April 5 .- The settling of the miners' and operators' difficulty is now of the national executive and by Mrs. Keegan in Gounod's "Cavahave voted against accepting the operators' miners' delegate convention to be held here on Monday, when the matter will go before | from Wagner's "Lohengrin," had to be cut the miners' national board for final con- out. The concert closed with Sullivan's

There is considerable speculation as to voices, which was sung with splendid the stand that will be taken by the national | power. Mrs. Stouder was a charming feabeard, as at the national convention it ture of the evening both in organ solos and was agreed that the scale should be the accompaniments. same as last year. Now the blacksmiths The annual concert by the Lindens at-partment subdued the flames. The house-hold effects were also badly damaged, causare demanding an advance of 20 cents per | tracts the cream of the musical talent of diem and the stationary engineers are de- the city, and its repeated successes are lay- ing a total loss of about \$1,800; covered by manding a reduction in hours with the ing the foundation for future May festivals insurance.

#### Everybody Walks at Terre Haute. Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., April 5 .- The baseball season opened to-day with a game between Terre Haute, of the Three-I Special to the Indianapolis Journal. League, and Chattanooga, of the Southern League, and, while the interest in the game was never more lively in Terre Haute. the fans and the Terre Haute Baseball Association are greatly perturbed over the street-car boycott. Practically every one the children equal shares in the property, who attends games at the park east of the city depends on the street cars. The boygott has been distressingly effective on many persons because they did not want to | night and sealed, found also for the widow, cars. Merchants and their clerks are wise would have been held for a share of walking for that reason,

#### YOUTHFUL BLACK THIEF.

#### He Is Sent to Reformatory for Robbing Lafayette Residences

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. LAFAYETTE, Ind., April 5 .- After a | is shown by the testator to certain children tireless search of two weeks the police today ran down the perpetrator of six mysterious burglaries that have occurred in in to-day's decision is about \$75,000. that length of time in the midst of the fashionable residence district of the city. The thief is Lee Wilson, a colored youth, but nineteen years of age, and he has confessed all of the robberies. The boy operated early in the evening and his jobs were bold almost to foolhardiness. Wilson's thefts included several valuable diamond studs from W. H. Zinn. Some of the goods were recovered

This afternoon Judge De Hart gave Wilson an indeterminate sentence in the Jeffersonville Reformatory and disfranchised him for two years.

#### Assault and Robbery Charged.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. FLORA, Ind., April 5 .- Henry Allen, a farmer living two miles west of this city, auspices of the Spiritualists. went home drunk last night and with a butcher's knife drove his wife and children from home, the latter fleeing to a neighbor's for protection. He then robbed Mrs. Allen of \$150, receipts from sale of produce. and fled. A warrant has been issued for his

#### DITCHING MACHINE BLOWS UP.

#### Two Men Seriously Hurt by an Explosion in Knox County.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. VINCENNES, Ind., April 5.-Harding & Son's immense electrical ditching apparatus, at work completing the Cain ditch

thrown into the ditch, and two of them are

ana Are Growing Steadily.

It is the best month yet for the new year.

During March the total shipments of crude

oil from the State were 923,141 barrels, 50,092

barrels more than in February and 20,265 barrels more than for January, when the

shipments naturally should be heavier. The

average daily shipments for March were

shows increase over the February runs of

106,907 barrels and over January of 18,971.

This indicates that the production of the

of northwestern Ohio.

various fields is gradually increasing, and

According to figures the pipe lines pur-

farmers the magnificent sum of \$524,932.80

for March alone, while for the past three

months the total paid out for the crude

roduct at the wells amounts to \$1,474,095.20. This industry means much to the people of

Indiana and puts a mint of money in cir-

culation. The most notable increase in the

new production comes from Grant county.

The following table shows the daily runs

Barrels, Barrels,

Shipments. Runs.

and shipments of oil by the Indiana pipe

ine in the Indiana field for March:

Totals ......923,141

The following table shows the daily av-

erage runs and shipments of oil from the

LINDEN QUARTETTE CONCERT.

Programme of High Order.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., April 5.- The ninth

annual concert of the Linden quartet was

let, second tenor, and Louis F. Curdes, first

tenor. They were assisted last night by

Monat and the Hayden and Apollo quar-

The honors were carried off by Mr.

Stouder in Liza Lehmann's "Myself When

the old Irish air, "Off to Philadelphia,"

fat, soprano, sang with much charm a duet

with Mr. Stouder, "I Feel Thy Angel

Spirit," by Graben-Hoffmann, and in the

sextet from "Lucia," by Donizetti, Mrs.

Keegan and the quartet carrying the other

parts, but she was suffering from a severe

'Lost Chord" for the triple quartet of male

WILL CASE DECIDED.

Court Finds for the Plaintiffs in the

Branstrator Action.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., April 5 .- The jury

in the Branstrator will case returned a

tiff and setting aside the will. This gives

verdict, which had been reached after mid-

estate. The attorneys for the defendant

say they cannot tell whether they will ap-

real or not. One of them said this morn-

ing that the decision proves again that no

will can be made that will stand the test

of a jury's scrutiny in any case where for

any reason, however sound, any partiality

to the detriment of others, no matter how

wayward they may have been in the life-

time of the father. The amount involved

INDIANA OBITUARY.

Thomas Major Bitters, a Veteran Re-

publican Editor of Rochester.

Major Bitters, for nearly twenty-nine years

editor of the Rochester Daily and Weekly

Republican, died at 3 o'clock this morning,

aged sixty-six years and six months. He

of Indiana. Death was due to congestion

of the liver and followed after a very brief

illness. The funeral will be held here at 2

Thomas Major Bitters was prominent as

well as a strong advocate of spiritualism.

He went to Peru in 1856 as a printer and,

publican until 1873, when he went to

Rochester and bought the Rochester Re-

in Company K of the One-hundredth-and-

the Republican and went to Rensselaer,

fifty-fifth Indiana Infantry. Later he sold

Special to the Indianapolis Journal,

cold and her later number, "Elsa's Dream."

of high order.

from "A Persian Garden," and

from "Queen of Sheba." Mrs. Mof-

Indiana field for the past three months:

Daily average...... 29,779

January ..... 29,125

February ...... 31,810

March ..... 29,779

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal

#### seriously hurt. The loss is \$25,000. Boy Killed at Greenfield.

Special to the Indianapolis Journa! cer of the throat at the age of seventy-GREENFIELD, Ind., April 5.-This eveneight. Mr. Butt came here at an early day, ing, just before 6 o'clock, Harry Brooks, a went to California during the gold excitereturned to Covington and embarked in the manufacture of wagons. Two daughters, him so that he did not notice the freight strong, who lived near New Salem, in Noble car. He was knocked down on the track by township, died this morning of paralysis, the bumpers and his body was cut in two, aged eighty. He was born on Feb. 25, 1822,

death being instantaneous. He came here and was a native of this county. He was last year from Philadelphia with his older the father of several sons and daughters brothers, who work in the local window who are living in different parts of the glass factory. His parents are dead. United States. The funeral will be held at the house on Monday morning. PRODUCTION INCREASING.

WABASH, Ind., April 5 .- Henry Custer, one of the old residents of Wabash county. Oil Runs and Shipments from Indiwas stricken with apoplexy at his home, five miles north of this city, last night, and died this morning. He was eighty-two years old, and was born in Morgan county, Virginia. He had been a resident of Wa-MONTPELIER, Ind., April 5.- The pipebash county since 1852. He left four chil-

teristics and exercised great influence in the community through his editorials. He

Other State Necrology.

COVINGTON, Ind., April 5 .- George Butt,

left a widow and two sons.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., April 5 .- A telegram from Thomasville, Ga., tells of the death to-day of Mrs. Wilson H. Soale, wife a Terre Haute attorney. She had been in the South several months for her health.

#### Boone County Insurance Company.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. LEBANON, Ind., April 5 .- The annual meeting of the Boone County Co-operative Insurance Company was held to-day. S. T. The total runs of crude oil from the wells | Stephenson was elected director for the elected president to succeed Gar Vandener and R. T. Ashley was re-elected secretarytreasurer The report of the secretarytreasurer shows that the increase in insurance for the year was \$146,000 and that the the time is not far ahead when the prototal amount of insurance in force at the present is \$1,558,137. The total assessments since the organization, six years ago, hasing oil have paid to the operators and amounts to \$1.12, or 19 1-5 cents on the \$100 per annum. The amount of losses since last report was \$5,468.99. The total losses to date amount to \$11,713.70.

#### Auburn's Era of Progress. Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., April 5 .- T. J. Peters and R. B. Hanna, to whom was awarded the contract by the City Council of Auburn, De Kalb county, for the paving with rock asphalt of the two miles of streets ordered to be improved, vesterday filed a bond for \$144,000 for the faithful erformance of contract and guaranty. Au burn has entered upon an era of street improvements which will make the city a second Bluffton in appearance. The asphalt will be laid from the Lake Shore and the Vandalia stations, on opposite sides of town, to the courthouse square, which also will be paved. Other contracts will be let this season. The cost of the pavements now contracted for will be \$72,000.

#### Secretly Married in Indianapolis.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. MUNCIE, Ind., April 5.-Miss Nellie Mc-Nerney left home on Thursday after telling her father, T. J. McNerney, that she was going to Seymour to visit her brother, Peter McNerney. Instead she was met at the depot by John Fort, and the two went to Indianapolis, where they were married, and then journeyed on toward California, where a month will be spent. The news of the wedding sent back home was a surprise. Mr. Port is owner of the Port fruit jar factory and his bride was for a time his stenographer. 21,169

#### Pythian Carnival Closes. Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

MUNCIE, Ind., April 5 .- The Knights of Pythias indoor carnival and fair in the Red Men's building closed to-night, having been a great success. There have been hundreds of visitors every night. This afternoon there was a matinee and to-night the hall could hardly accommodate the throngs. The lodge will make a large sum, as most everything was given, there being little or no expense, while thousands of dollars have been taken in in the different

#### Arrested for Embezzlement.

given last night at the Wayne-street Meth-Special to the Indianapolis Journal odist Church before a large and critical CRAWFORDSVILLE, Ind., April 5 .audience who have come to look forward Charles S. Cook was arrested this afterwith growing interest to the annual renoon charged with embezzling \$1,679 from citals by this well-known musical organithe McCormick Harvesting Company, of REPUBLICANS OF ORANGE COUNTY zation. It has been heard at several an-Chicago. Cook was the collector for the nual meetings of the Lincoln League in company in the counties of Montgomery, White, Tippecanoe, Carroll and Clinton, and various cities of the State and on many is charged with making and retaining other occasions in this part of Indiana. It thirteen different collections and appropriis composed of Frank E. Stouder, bass; ating the money to his own use. He is in Hugh G. Keegan, baritone; Frank E. Rib- jail in default of \$3,000 bail.

## Brakeman Cut to Pieces.

PLYMOUTH, Ind., April 5.-Robert Mc-Kagne, a brakeman on the construction train of the Pennsylvania Railroad, slipped and fell under the train while switching here this forenoon. Both arms, one leg and his head were cut off. He was the only support of a widowed mother and one sister. He was thirty-two years old, was a soldier in the Philippine war, was born in Plymouth and had lived here all his life.

## Badly Damaged by Fire.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal,

## Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

MUNCIE, Ind., April 5.-Official information has been received here that the flint glass factories the country over will be closed for the annual summer vacation on May 15. Oct. 1 is the date set for the resumption, but it is said there is an overproduction of glass and the shut-down may verdict this morning sustaining the plainbe lengthened.

## Killed a Carrier Pigeon.

after deducting the widow's third. The Special to the Indianapolis Journal. SCOTTSBURG, Ind., April 5.-William Skeels, a farmer living four miles west of offend organized labor by riding on the who technically was a defendant and other- Deputy, Ind., to-day while out hunting shot a pigeon. After he killed the pigeon he the costs. There are half a dozen other found that around its leg was a silver band suits growing out of the division of the with "M. F. H. No. 10" engraved on the

## Indiana Notes.

LAFAYETTE.-Smallpox continues to the health officer. One case is in the family of Freeman Patt, at No. 1315 Union street. The other is Mary Bowen, at No. 1110 Ferry street. All the houses quarantined are kept under surveillance and everything possible is being done to prevent the spread of the malady.

townships for the purpose of voting on | township is asked to raise \$58,000 by taxa- nominated for this office. ROCHESTER, Ind., April 5,-Thomas tion and Penn township \$17,500. BROWNSTOWN.-James Elkins, aged

about forty-five, committed suicide by blowing a hole in his head with a shotgun, at his home, three miles west of town, on Friday. He left a widow and several chilwas one of the veteran Republican editors | dren. No cause is assigned for the act.

## TWO DIVORCE CASES.

## Followed by Sensational Damage

Suits for Alienation of Affections. a newspaper editor and political leader, as CINCINNATI, April 5 .- Two divorce suits of prominent couples were followed here toexcept during the civil war, was foreman in day by sensational damage suits. Recently the mechanical department of the Peru Re-Mrs. Austin Smith, nee Lena Marmet, obtained a divorce. To-day she was sued by publican and became its editor. He served Mrs. J. W. Wolfe for \$100,000 damages for alienating the affections of her husband. Meantime Mr. Wolfe had previously sued his wife for divorce, and to-day he said where he bought the Rensselaer Republican, which he edited for several years. he would sue Joseph Kolb, the father of Then he returned to Rochester and engaged | Mrs. Wolfe, for damages in alienating his in the real-estate business, which he aban- | wife's affections. Mrs. Marmet, the mother | doned afterward and founded the Rochester of Mrs. Smith, has been sued for damages | here to-day. The attendance was not so Tribune. He then bought the Rochester by Mrs. Wolfe on the charge of acting as large as had been anticipated. There were fresh batch of doughnuts made by my Republican back and consolidated it with a "go-between" for Mrs. Smith and Mr. in Vigo township of Knox county, was the Tribune, retaining the name of the Re- Wolfe. Sensational charges are made in Republican majority in the county is in- all! Even the holes in 'em taste better blown up and consumed by flames to-night | publican. He was a man of strong charac- | all of the petitions.

YOUR CREDIT IS GOOD AT "THE RELIABLE." EASY TO BUY. EASY TO PAY. Great Spring Event:

MONTHS of prodigious planning and laborious achievement is illustrated by a glimpse of our new and beautiful stock. With an entire new stock of the choicest and most reliable creations in Furniture, Carpets and general housefurnishings we intend to give the greatest values ever known. The bargains are for everybody either for cash or on easy weekly or monthly payments. No extra charge for credit, and every offering is covered with a broad guarantee backed with the good name of "The Reliable," which is a safeguard against disappointment.



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ished frame Davenport, 6 feet long, upholstered in good velour. A great bargain.

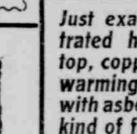
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LARGER BILLS

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\$16.98



A well-made white enameled Iron Bed, with fancy-shaped head and foot. Strong and dur-

# A GOOD STEEL RANGE FOR \$2 CASH AND 50c A WEEK



# Genuine Steel Range

Just exactly as you see it illustrated here-with four holes in top, copper side reservoir and high warming shelf, lined throughout with asbestos, duplex grate for any kind of fuel; guaranteed to bake, wear well and not warp or crack. Come and see it. Price,

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32, 34, 36 SOUTH ILLINOIS STREET

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A very neat Bed

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A well-regulated

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oak frame, with dro



with pretty mirror

d Oak Sideboard

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A well-made solid

a k Combination

Writing Desk with

Case and

oval mirror in top. | covered seats.

A lovely Mantel Floding Bed, beautifully finished in gold- 30 rights and gloss en oak, large size and strongly made.

A beautiful 5-piece

TERMS

goods, \$1.00 down, 50c a week

\$15.00 worth of

LARGER BILLS IN PROPORTION

## TWO SETS OF DELEGATES

SPLIT THEIR CONVENTION.

Rival Candidates for Joint Senator Cause the Break-Clinton Republican Ticket-Other Politics.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. PAOLI, Ind., April 5.-The Republicans of Orange county met in mass convention at Paoli this afternoon. It was the largest | S. Morgan, Austin. and most exciting convention ever held in this county. The contest was over the selection of delegates to the joint senatorial convention of Lawrence, Martin and Orange countles, to be held at Mitchell on ! April 16. The opposing candidates are Dr. | ticket to-day by a spirited primary election. BRAZIL, Ind., April 5 .- At noon to-day Laughlin, of Orleans, and Harry Carnes, of The polls opened at 10 o'clock this morning the two-story frame residence of County Paoli. The courtroom would not hold half and closed at 8 to-night. The total vote Commissioner Joseph M. Wardlaw at the people and the meeting adjourned to show the following to have been nomi-Staunton caught fire from a defective flue the courthouse grounds. The meeting was nated: Mayor, A. A. Small; treasurer, and was badly damaged before the fire de- called to order by J. P. Throop, chairman | Charles I. Kemmery; clerk, Frank A. The test of the strength of the two fac- Rose, W. W. Atherton and Charles Friel, to me, when speaking of his wife: "Good tions came in the election of a chairman | H. C. Van Horn and F. C. McCall. of the convention. The Carnes faction nominated Mr. Rankin, of Paoli, for chair-Glass Shut Down May Be Lengthened. | man and the Laughlin following nominated Captain Conder, of Orleans. Captain Conder was elected chairman by a large majority, and the Carnes faction bolted the convention, went back into the courthouse and went through the form of holding a The regular convention nominated delegates to the senatorial convention to cast | O. Carter, treasurer; Orval Burgett, audithe solid vote of Orange county for Dr.

Laughlin. The convention indorsed and cheered Senators Beveridge and Fairbanks, | tions were adopted. and cheered for Dr. Laughlin and then adjourned.

## WILL NOMINATE IN CONVENTION.

Kosciusko Republicans Object to Primary-Warsaw Democrats.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. WARSAW, Ind., April 5 .- An attempt to secure the adoption of the primary system for the nomination of candidates for county offices was defeated at a meeting break out at intervals in the city, and on of the Republican county committee to-Saturday two new cases were reported to day, when it was decided to hold a convention. Tuesday, May 27, was selected as the date of the convention, with one delegate for every four votes cast for Governor at the last election. A hot fight over the city election has May 31. developed. The city has not had a Democratic officer for years, but the minority PORTLAND .- On Monday special elec- party is making desperate efforts to break tions are to be held in Penn and Wayne this record. It has decided to confine its efforts to the election of a mayor, and no the proposed subsidy for the Dayton, other candidates have been nominated. Ed- Often the More Amusing Because Union & Huntington Railroad, Wayne | ward Bowser, a young attorney, has been

## WILL CONTEST THE NOMINATION.

Isaac H. Gray Protests Against Sherritt for Mayor of Muncie.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. MUNCIE, Ind., April 5.-Isaac H. Gray, secretary of the county central Republican committee, to-day states that he will contest the recent nomination of C. W. Sherritt for mayor at the Republican city primary election. Mr. Gray was defeated by Mr. Sherritt by 83 votes in a four-cornered contest, in which all candidates were well bunched Mr. Gray, on the day following the elec-

tion, informed the committee that he might protest the nomination, but to-day states that he will on Monday file formal charges. He will not discuss his objections.

#### Wabash County Democrats. Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

WABASH, Ind., April 5 .- Wabash county Democrats held their county convention

lows: Representative, W. A. Elward; pros- her long-haired, eighteen-year-old nephew ecuting attorney, Aaron Mandelbaum; appeared, after a strenuous and besmirch-clerk, Alexander Fulton; auditor, Luther ing game of football with a rival academy. Morris; treasurer, Ev. W. Wright; sheriff, she cried: "Please, don't anybody tell Tom William Null; commissioners, G. M. Nab- that he looks like a poet. It makes him ber and Hugh Jackson.

## Delegate Conventions.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. RISING SUN, Ind., April 5.—At the Ohio county Republican convention held here this afternoon the following delegates to he Republican state convention were selected: Randolph township, Harry G. Mat-Pike townships, Marion Miller and John

SCOTTSBURG, Ind., April 5.—The Republicans of Scott county held their delegate convention to-day and selected the following for the state convention on April 23 and 24: E. M. Campbell, Lexington; J. L. Fisher and John Simonson, Scottsburg; J.

Anderson Republican Nominees. Special to the Indianapolis Journal. ANDERSON, Ind., April 5,-The Republicans of Anderson nominated their city cast exceeds 2,500. The returns at midnight

## Clinton Republican Ticket.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. FRANKFORT, Ind., April 5.-Clinton county Republicans nominated their ticket to-day, as follows: Asa Boulden, representative; Joseph Claybaugh, judge; George A. Moss, prosecutor; C. Merrit, clerk; N. tor; Frank Corns, sheriff. Resolutions indorsing the state and national administra-

# Monroe County for Miers.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. BLOOMINGTON, Ind., April 5 .- The Democrats held a mass convention in Monroe county to-day and passed resolutions indorsing Judge Miers to Congress and instructing the twelve delegates to vote for his renomination as long as there was a

## Montgomery County Politics.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. CRAWFORDSVILLE, Ind., April 5 .-The Republican county central committee met to-day and set the time for the county nominating convention for Saturday. une 14. Delegates will be chosen on

## COUNTRY HUMOR.

Quite Unconscious.

Before offering any examples of country

James Buckham, in New York Post.

humor in speech I must caution the reader against expecting anything keen, polished or finely wrought in the form in which these rural bon-mots are expressed. It is the underlying humor-often not perceived er suspected by the speaker himself-the latent humor rather than the patent wit, that gives to country talk its indefinable charm. Often the words themselves-the but he follered em all day in the wrong mere words-would seem, to the casual hearer, entirely devoid of humor. And yet, if one follows out the hint they convey, often taking speech in connection with manner and glance, the fun begins to bubble up, like water from a spring that has been cleansed of sticks and leaves. Indeed, with certain country characters the raw, crude material of humor may be expected in nearly every utterance. It is a sure cure for the blues to associate with mind a certain elderly lady, with a perpetual twinkle in her eye, whose very presence is a guaranty of cheerfulness. She turns | Throat, General Prostration and Fever. everything she touches to humor with that rarer than Midas-gift of inward sunshine. It was she who exclaimed, on sampling a surmountable. The nominations are as fol- than anybody else's!" And one day, when

Most of the humor of country conversa-

#### tion, however, is unconscious with the speaker, and this is by far the most delectable kind. For instance, I doubt if I

shall ever outgrow the necessity of smiling when I think of what a certain excellent Vermont lady replied in all seriousness, to her pastor, when he was urging her to join the church. She said that she didn't want to join any church. She didn't son and Robert C. Nelson; Cass, Union and | want to go to any other place than her husband went to, and she was afraid if she joined the church that she might! I think this is the most heroic case of conjugal loyalty that ever came to my notice. I was fishing one day with a very sentimental and poetical young man (such as one encounters occasionally in the country), who was also very flat in his pronunciation. We were sitting in a flatbottomed boat on a pond, the little silver-sided waves dancing all about us and slapping the bow of

> poet heaved a deep sigh, lifted his sad, sentimental eyes to my face, and ex-"Haow the water goes saow, saow against the boat! It was a sincere and heartfelt interpretation of nature, and yet it obliged me to

our craft, when suddenly my young rural

A middle-aged farmer, whose conjugal relations, according to all reports, had not Lord! I've spent enough on that woman to buy three farms, and yet, come a Sunday, she'd ruther go off to some holiness meetin' than stay to hum and help me dress a hawg! My wife's sister once asked a pallid little

country woman if she wasn't going to keep

hired girl during the winter. "Wall, ]

dunno," was the reply. "I don't feel as

search for several moments under my seat

for the bait-can which I knew was not

if I could jest yit, but p'rhaps if I should get to feelin' a leetle better and stronger I might. A young farmer called at the town clerk's office in the village where I was staying on summer to sign some papers with reference to a farm which he had just bought, After asking the apparently irrelevant and impertinent questions common to such occasions, the clerk inquired:

"Married?"

heads.

The clerk was scratching down the answer, when the young man interrupted, nervously: "Hold on! I'm goin' to be. Say, do you want to know who 'tis?' There is another form of country humor that is more formulated, more conscious more nearly approaching wit. Replies of this kind often need very little polishing to make them available literary bon mots. For example: A dry old farmer, when asked why he did not take more stock in religion, replied: "Wal, now, I'll tell ye, friend. It looks just this way to me-as if religion, to most people that have got it, was a good deal like an achin' head. They'd be mighty glad to get rid on't, but they

A village wag was watching some boys "playing soldier" in front of the store. Suddenly I heard him call out: "Say, boys! You hain't organized that comp'ny right, accordin' to the State milishy rules. There hadn't orter be more 'n one private for ev'ry two officers!" A self-conscious and rather egotistical

don't want to run the resk of losin' their

young minister, who was supplying a country church in my neighborhood, ventured to ask one of the deacons, a grizzled, plainspoken old chap, what he thought of "this morning's effort?"-meaning, of course, the sermon he had just preached "Wall." answered the old man slowly, "I'll tell ye, but I'll tell ye in a kind o' parable. It reminded me of old Sim Peck's fust deer hunt, when he was a green 'un. He follored the deer's tracks all right. direction.

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